

Sunday, November 9, 1879.

## THE PUEBLOS.

The Pueblo Indians of New Mexico, once so numerous and powerful, at the present day inhabit twenty-six villages, situated principally in the valley of Del Norte, and the whole population does not exceed ten thousand. Anciently they composed four nations, speaking as many languages, namely, the Piros, Teguas, Queres, and Tagnos, or Tanos; but the villages of the latter have gone to ruins and the population has passed away; or if any of them remain, they have become incorporated with other pueblos. They still live in little communities, distinct from the Mexican population, and are governed by their own local customs and laws. Each village is distinct from the others, and there is no common bond of union between them. Their officers are a governor, a justice of the peace, or alcalde, styled *cacique*, a *fiscal*, or constable, to execute the laws and a "council of wise men." These are the civil officers, and in addition there is a "war captain," who attends to military affairs.

They have been made to embrace christianity, and worship according to the forms of the Roman Catholic Church, priests being stationed in many of the villages. They are a quiet and orderly people and form a meritorious class of the population of the Territory. They are industrious and frugal, and live in harmony with each other and the surrounding Mexican population. A few hundred acres of land belong to each pueblo, which, for purposes of cultivation, is parcelled out to respective families. They raise grain, vegetables and fruits, manufacture some wine and possess considerable flocks and herds. They cultivate by means of irrigation. They have retained, in a great measure their aboriginal costume, and dress either in skins, or woolen goods of their own manufacture. Their food is simple and wholesome, consisting mainly of beans, peppers and cornmeal, which are prepared in a manner peculiar to these people. They are ignorant and superstitious, but brave; and instead of increasing in numbers appear to be gradually decreasing. It is the belief of many persons that the Pueblo Indians of New Mexico were obtained from a wild state and were settled in villages by the Spaniards, an error it is hardly necessary to combat, after the proof to the contrary to be found in this article.

This race is identical with the one the Spaniards found in New Mexico, on their first exploration of the country—in manners, customs, mode of living, etc., and differ but little from the originals of Mexico proper. Early after the conquest, the Spanish government became sensible of the wisdom of a policy that would conciliate the people so numerous and so powerful as the native inhabitants of Mexico, and accordingly, in 1523, the emperor Charles V. authorized the viceroys and governors to grant a certain quantity of land to each village. In 1533 the mountain pastures and the waters were made common to both Spaniards and Indians. The decree of Philip II. dated June 1587, confirmed, to the various pueblos, or villages, eleven hundred varas square of land, which was afterward increased to a league square. Some of the decrees state that the Indians were not to have any higher title in the land than the right of possession; and the order of Philip IV., of March 16th, 1542, provides that the lands, which the Pueblo Indians have in any manner improved by their industry, shall be reserved to them, but that they shall neither have power to sell nor alienate the same. The decree of the Royal Audience of Mexico, of February 23d, 1781, confirmatory of that of Philip III., of October 20th, 1598, prohibits the Pueblo Indians selling, renting, leasing, or in any other manner disposing of their lands, to each other or to third parties, without the consent of said royal audience. These authorities prove two facts—if there were no other evidence on these points—first, that the Spaniards found the Indians already settled in villages and confirmed land to them to cultivate them; and second, that said grants of land were held by right of possession only, the fee-simple remaining in the crown of Spain, from which it passed to the government of

Mexico, and subsequently to the United States, by the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo.

If space permitted, it would be interesting to inquire the probable origin of the Pueblo Indians and whence they came. There are two theories on this subject—one that they are of Aztec origin, and the other that they are the remains of a Toltec colony, according to tradition. When the Aztecs peopled New Mexico they came from the North, or North-west, and only reached their new homes in the valley of the Anahuac, after a period of an hundred and fifty years, halting from time to time, and building villages and cultivating the earth. Castañeda was of opinion that the Pueblo Indians came from the North-west. If this were the case some of the migrating Aztecs must have remained in New Mexico and not moved on with the main body. There is a tradition among them, that they are the people of Montezuma. The survivors of the Pecos people believed that he would return and deliver them from the Spaniards, down to the time they became extinct, while the God of Laguna is called by his name. All the pueblos keep up the *estufa*, because it is said to have been instituted by Montezuma. A Jemez Indian told Lieutenant Simpson that God and the sun were one and the same. Baron Humboldt contended that the Aztec language differed essentially from that of the Pueblo Indians, and Castañeda declared that the latter were unknown to the inhabitants of Mexico, until Baca and his companions brought information of them. The late Albert Gallatin believed them to be of Toltec origin. Notwithstanding there are many facts in opposition to the theory that the Pueblo Indians and the Aztecs belong to the same race, the similitude between their manners and customs, and their mode of building and living would argue an identity; and if, upon careful investigation, their language shall be found substantially the same, the evidence on the subject would appear quite conclusive.

## New Mexico.

New Mexico is rich in cattle, horses, sheep, gold, silver, copper, iron, and coal. It is productive in its mountain and valley regions of wheat, grapes, fine wines, fruits, and vegetables of all kinds. Its climate is the driest and most healthful in the United States and its mineral springs the most remarkable and wonderfully curative. It is a country of grand beautiful and weird scenery and a region of the greatest interest to the antiquarian historian and scholar. Now that New Mexico has railroad communication with the rest of the country the era of its rapid development begins and it is destined to play an important part in the future history of the country.

Dealers in hardware, stoves, tinware, etc., throughout the Territory and the Panhandle of Texas would do well to bear in mind that O. L. Doughton, of Las Vegas, has the largest stock in this line of any house in Southern Colorado and New Mexico. He is prepared to do a wholesale business with the stock on hand. Retail dealers can supply themselves at his store, without going further than Las Vegas.

## PROPOSALS.

## FOR CROSS-TIES.

COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO, }  
October 25, 1879. }

Sealed proposals will be received at the office of the undersigned until noon, November 15th, 1879, for furnishing one hundred and sixty thousand (160,000) cross ties for the graded road bed of the Denver & Rio Grande Railway between Alamosa and the New Mexico State line, said ties to be of good sound spruce or pine timber; the dimensions to be six (6) inches thick, not less than six (6) inches face, and six and one-half (6½) feet long. Bidders will specify whether they propose to deliver along the graded road bed or along the line of the constructed road between Veta Pass and Alamosa, and in the latter case at what station. Payments in cash on monthly estimates. Forms of proposal and contract can be had upon application to the undersigned. A sufficient indemnifying bond will be required in each case. R. F. WEITBRECK, Treasurer.

COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO, }  
October 29th, 1879. }

SEALED PROPOSALS will be received at the office of the undersigned until noon, November 29th, 1879, for furnishing six hundred and forty thousand (640,000) cross ties for the graded road bed of the Denver & Rio Grande Railway between the New

Mexico and State line and Albuquerque, a distance of about 150 miles, said ties to be of good sound spruce or pine timber; the dimensions to be six (6) inches thick, not less than six (6) inches face, and six and one-half (6½) feet long. Bidders will specify whether they propose to deliver. Payments in cash on monthly estimates. Forms of proposal and contract can be had upon application to the undersigned. A sufficient indemnifying bond will be required in each case. R. F. WEITBRECK, Treasurer.

COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO, }  
October 29, 1879. }

Sealed proposals will be received at the office of the undersigned until noon, November 29, 1879, for furnishing six hundred and forty thousand (640,000) cross ties for the graded road bed of the Denver & Rio Grande Railway between the junction of the San Juan and New Mexico lines near Conejos and the Animas river, a distance of about one hundred and sixty miles; said ties to be of good sound spruce or pine timber; the dimensions six (6) inches thick, not less than six (6) inches face, and six and one-half (6½) feet long. Bidders will specify where they propose to deliver. Payments in cash on monthly estimates. Forms of proposal and contract can be had upon application to the undersigned. A sufficient indemnifying bond will be required in each case. R. F. WEITBRECK, Treas.

## FOR GRADE.

COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO, }  
October 25th, 1879. }

Sealed proposals will be received at the office of the undersigned until noon, November 20th, 1879, for the grading of the San Juan Extension of the Denver & Rio Grande Railway from a point near the town of Conejos, in the County of Conejos, to a point on the San Juan River, near the mouth of the Piedras, a distance of about one hundred and twenty-six (126) miles. The profile specifications and form of bid can be seen at the office of J. A. McMurtrie, Chief Engineer, South Pueblo, Colorado, on and after November 15th, 1879. Payments to be made monthly in cash on the estimate of the engineer in charge of the work, and within twenty days after the close of each month. Contractors are requested to examine the line before bidding. A suitable indemnifying bond will be required in each case. R. F. WEITBRECK, Treasurer.

COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO, }  
October 31, 1879. }

Sealed proposals will be received at the office of the undersigned until noon, December 1st, 1879, for the grading of the New Mexico Extension of the Denver & Rio Grande Railway, from a point near the town of Conejos, to the crossing of the Rio Grande river, near Clermont, a distance of about 57 miles. The profile specifications, and form of bid can be seen at the office of J. A. McMurtrie, Chief Engineer, South Pueblo, Colorado, on and after November 29, 1879. Payments to be made monthly in cash on the estimate of the engineer in charge of the work, and within twenty days after the close of each month. Contractors are requested to examine the line before bidding. A suitable indemnifying bond will be required in each case. R. F. WEITBRECK, Treasurer.

COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO, }  
October 29, 1879. }

Sealed proposals will be received at the office of the undersigned until noon, December 20, 1879, for the grading of the San Juan Extension of the Denver & Rio Grande Railway from a point on the San Juan river near the mouth of the Piedras to the Animas river, a distance of about 18 miles. The profile specifications and form of bid can be seen at the office of J. A. McMurtrie, Chief Engineer, South Pueblo, Colorado, on and after December 15, 1879. Payments to be made monthly in cash on the estimate of the engineer in charge of the work, and within twenty days after the close of each month. Contractors are requested to examine the line before bidding. A suitable indemnifying bond will be required in each case. R. F. WEITBRECK, Treasurer.

## Administrator's Notice.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been appointed administrator of the estate of J. Reitz, deceased, by the Honorable Probate Court, in and for the county of San Miguel. All persons indebted to said estate are hereby notified to make immediate settlement, and all persons having claims against said estate are notified to present them within the next sixty days. L. L. HOWISON, Administrator.

Las Vegas, N. M.; Nov. 6, 1879.  
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## Notice

IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT I CLAIM, FOR grazing purposes, the following described land, to wit: commencing one hundred yards south and one hundred yards west of the house on right fork of the left fork, and running north one half mile; thence east eighty rods, thence north eighty rods, thence east eighty rods, thence south one half mile, thence west eighty rods, thence south eighty rods, thence west eighty rods to place of beginning, containing 100 acres, more or less. Said land being situated on the south fork of the river Gallinas and unsurveyed. V. M. SCHELL, October 24, 1879-w4t

## THE CURRENCY QUESTION.

Notwithstanding the fact that thousands of our people are at present worrying themselves almost to death over this vexatious question, even to the extent of neglecting their business, their and homes their duty to their families, there are still thousands upon thousands of smart, hard working, intelligent men pouring into the great Arkansas Valley, the Garden of the West, where the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad offers them their choice of 2,500,000 acres of the best farming lands in the world at almost their own price. If you do not believe it, write to the undersigned, who will tell you where you can get a cheap land exploring ticket, and how, at a moderate expense, you can see for yourself and be convinced.

W. F. WHITE,  
General Passenger and Ticket Agent,  
Topeka, Kansas.

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E. A. FISK, Santa Fe, Attorney & Manager.

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JUDGE S. A. HUBBELL, Prop.,

Las Vegas, N. M.

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